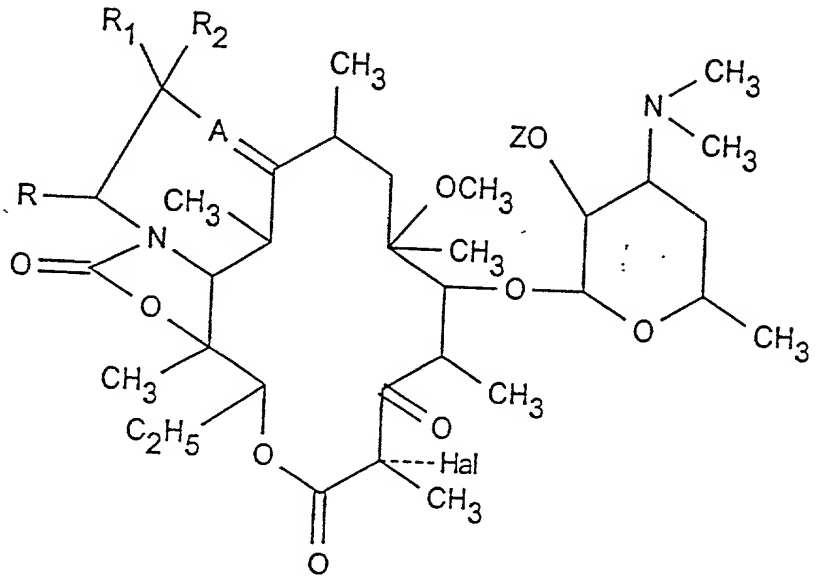
WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A compound selected from the group consisting of a compound of the formula



I

wherein A is nitrogen or N→O, R_1 and R_2 are individually selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, R is ~~selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and~~ $-(CH_2)_mOB$, Hal is halogen, m and n are individually an integer from 1 to 8, B is hydrogen or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-Ar_2ØR-(CH_2)_n-Ar$, Ar is a mono- or polycyclic aryl or heteroaryl, Z is hydrogen or acyl of an organic carboxylic acid of up to 18 carbon atoms and its non-toxic, pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein R_1 and R_2 are hydrogen.

3. A compound of claim 1 wherein A is nitrogen.

4. A compound of claim 1 wherein Hal is fluorine.

5. A compound of claim 1 wherein R is hydrogen.

6. A compound of claim 1 wherein R is $-CH_2OH$.

7. A compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of [3aS-(3aR*,4S*,7R*,9S*,10S*,11S*,13S*,15S*,15aS*)]-4-ethyl-7-fluoro-3a,4,10,11,12,13,15,15a-octahydro-11-methoxy-3a,7,9,11,13,15-hexamethyl-10-[[3,4,6-trideoxy-3-(dimethyl-amino)-.beta.-D-xylo-hexopyranosyl]oxy]-14,1-(nitriloethano)-2H-oxacyclotetradecino[4,3-d]oxazole-2,6,8(9H)-trione and

[3aS-(3aR*,4S*,7R*,9S*,10S*,11S*,13S*,15S*,15aS*,17R*)]-4-ethyl-7-fluoro-3a,4,10,11,12,13,15,15a-octahydro-18-hydroxymethyl)-11-methoxy-3a,7,9,11,13,15-hexamethyl-10-[[3-4,6-trideoxy-3-(dimethylamino)-.beta.-D-xylohexopyranosyl]oxy]-14,1-(nitriloethano)-2H-oxacyclotetradecino[4,3-d]oxazole-2,6,8(9H)-trione.

8. An antibiotic composition comprising an antibiotically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 and an inert pharmaceutical carrier.

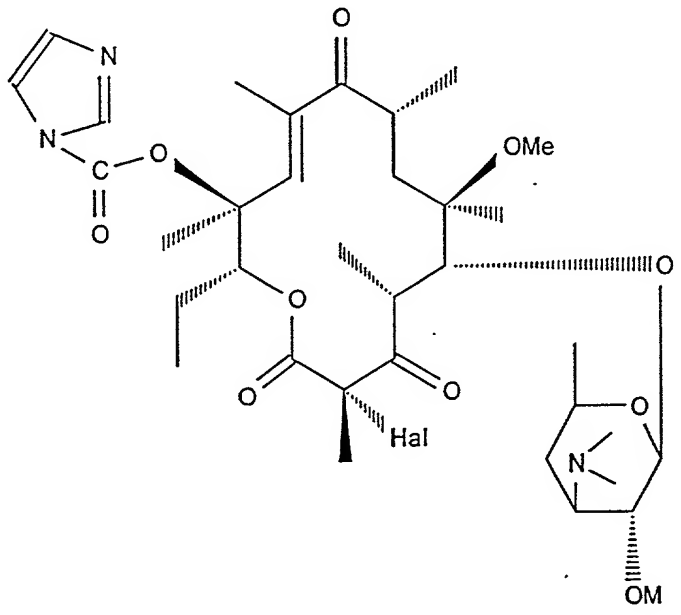
9. An antibiotic composition comprising an antibiotically

effective amount of a compound of claim 7 and an inert pharmaceutical carrier.

10. A method of treating bacterial infections in warm-blooded animals comprising administering to warm-blooded animals an antibiotically effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

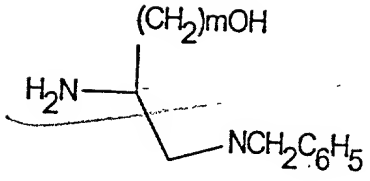
11. A method of treating bacterial infections in warm-blooded animals comprising administering to warm-blooded animals an antibiotically effective amount of a compound of claim 7.

12. A process for the preparation of a compound of claim 1 comprising reacting a compound of the formula



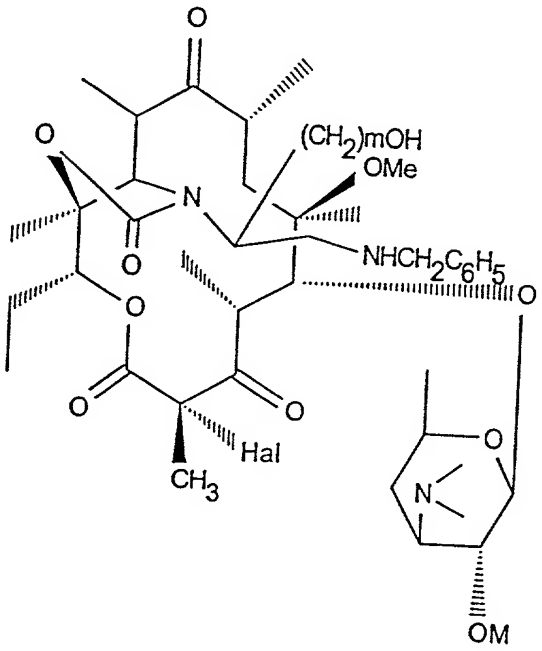
II

wherein Hal is halogen and OM is a protected hydroxyl with a compound of the formula



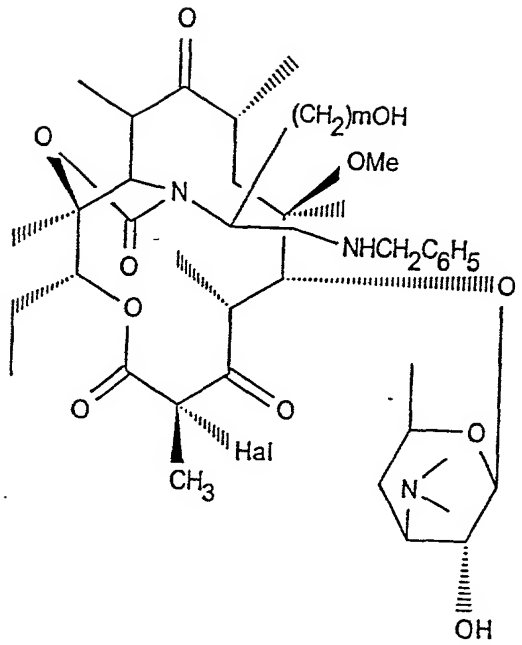
III

wherein m is an integer from 1 to 8 to obtain a compound of the formula



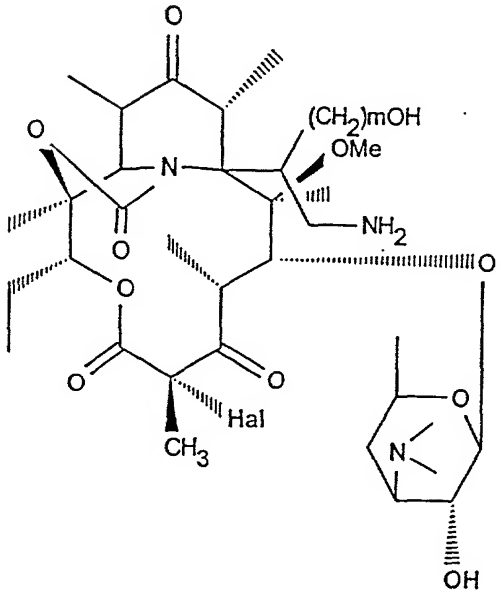
IV

deprotecting the 2′-hydroxyl to obtain a compound of the formula



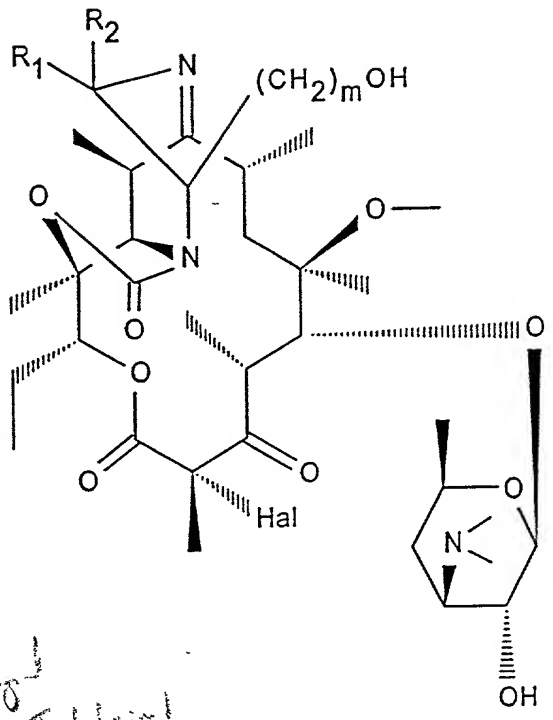
V

reacting the latter with a debenzylating agent to obtain a compound of the formula



VI

reacting the latter with a cyclization agent to form a compound of the formulae

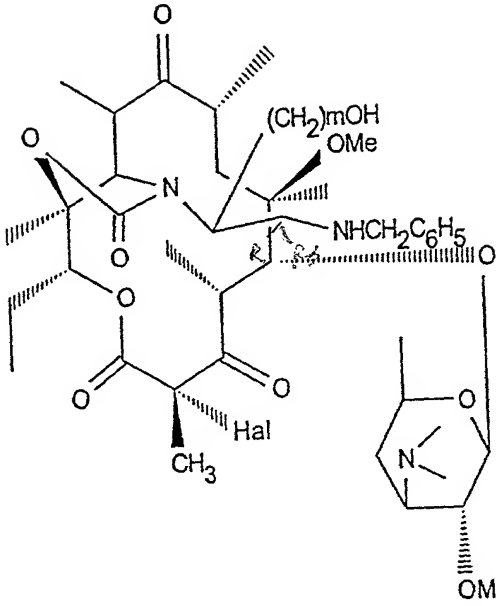


IA

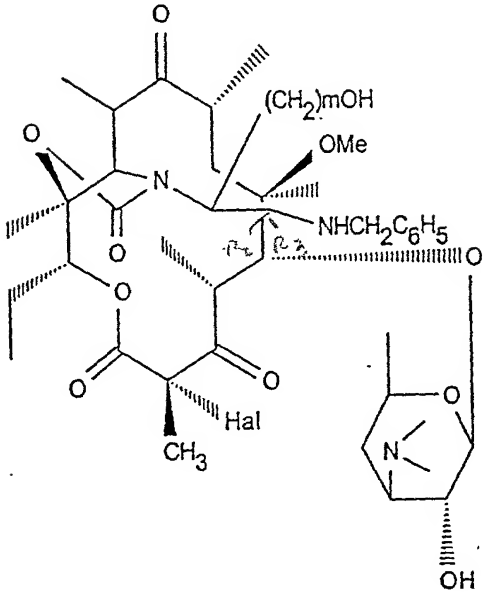
corresponding to a compound of formula I of claim 1

wherein R is $-(CH_2)_m-OH$ and optionally subjecting the latter to an aralkylating or acylating agent to obtain a compound of formula I of claim 1 wherein B is $-(CH_2)_n-Ar$ or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-Ar$.

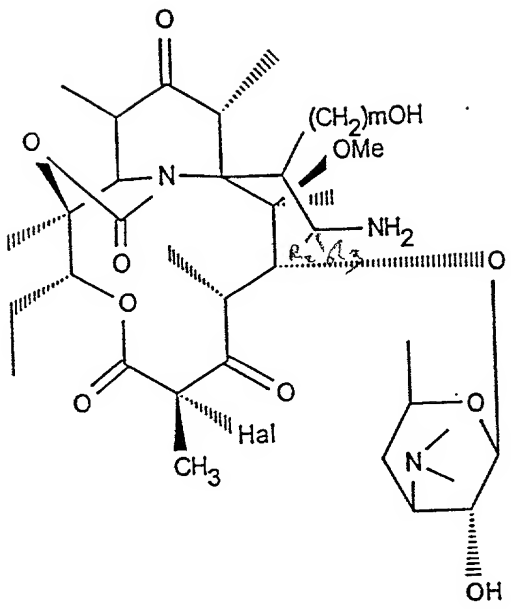
13. A compound selected from the group consisting of


O
(CH2)mOH
OMe
N
NHCH2C6H5
O
O
O
O
O
Hal
CH3
O
N
OM

IV


O
(CH2)mOH
OMe
N
NHCH2C6H5
O
O
O
O
O
Hal
CH3
O
N
OH

V



VI

where the substituents are defined as in claim 12.